(v) reducing regional imbalance, social gaps and promotion of inclusiveness in higher education.

OBC reservation in IIMs

3576. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 575 OBC students have been short-listed for group discussions and personal interviews, on the basis of their performance in the Common Admission Tests for admission to six elite Indian Institutes of Management; and

(b) if so, whether Government would take this ground reality into consideration while finalizing quota for OBCs for admissions for higher and professional education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) Five hundred sixty-one (561) OBC students have been short-listed by six Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Kolkata, Lucknow, Indore and Kozhikode for group discussions and personal interviews, on the basis of their performance in the Common Admission Test for admission to 2008—2010 session.

(b) No, Sir.

Regulation of AICTE

3577. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Knowledge Commission has commented that the model of regulation of the AICTE has led to an exploitative and commercial environment with a compromise on quality of education, thereby leading to a mismatch between demand and supply;

(b) if so, whether Government has initiated any remedial measures, in consultation with the Commission; and

(c) whether the long-pending education reforms would be finalized to ensure transparency and accountability in the working of AICTE and similar other bodies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The National Knowledge Commission, in its report, has commented that "the existing regulatory framework constrains the supply of good institutions, excessively regulates existing institutions in the wrong places, and is not conducive innovation or creativity in higher education. The challenge is therefore to design a regulatory system that increases the supply of good institutions and fosters accountability in those institutions".

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education has already constituted a Review Committee to review the role and fuctions of University Grants Commission and All India Council for Technical Education as part of the reform process of higher education in the country.